

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05872 031220Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----045251 031225Z /53

R 030946Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3360

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T TEHRAN 5872

EXDIS

NOFORN

DEPT PLEASE PASS USCINCEUR

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, US, PK, FR, BR, JA, ENRG

SUBJ: SHAH CONVERSATION WITH BHUTTO

1. COURT MINISTER ALAM INFORMED ME JULY 2 THAT HE HAD BEEN  
INSTRUCTED BY SHAH TO PROVIDE ME WITH REPORT OF CONVERSATION  
SHAH HAD WITH BHUTTO ON NUCLEAR MATTERS DURING RECENT BHUTTO  
VISIT TEHRAN.

2. ALAM SAID THAT BHUTTO HAD EXPRESSED EAGERNESS TO REPAIR  
HIS RELATIONS WITH US. SHAH SAID HE THOUGHT MOST SERIOUS PAK-  
US PROBLEM WAS BHUTTO INSISTENCE ON HAVING REPROCESSING PLANT.  
HE REPORTEDLY ASKED BHUTTO WHY HE WANTED NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. BHUTTO STRONGLY DENIED THAT HE INTENDED TO DEVELOP  
NUCLEAR WEAPON AND SAID HIS DESIRE FOR REPROCESSING PLANT  
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EXCLUSIVELY CONCERNED HIS INTEREST IN "MOST ECONOMICAL"  
FORM OF NUCLEAR POWER. SHAH SUGGESTED THAT THERE WERE  
TECHNICAL WAYS TO ACHIEVE THAT OBJECTIVE WITHOUT PRODUCING  
WEAPONS GRADE PLUTONIUM.

4. BHUTTO THEN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED  
EXAMINE ALTERNATIVES. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE LEAD TIME

INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT AND DECISION DID NOT NEED TO BE MADE NOW. HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF HIS "CURRENT POLITICAL VULNERABILITIES" HE HAD TO STICK TO HIS PUBLIC POSITION, BUT APPEARED NOT TO RULE OUT POSSIBILITIES FOR MORE FLEXIBLE APPROACH AT LATER STAGE IF HE RETAINS CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT.

5. ALAM THEN ASKED, AFTER PASSING REFERENCE TO REPORTS OF JAPANESE WILLINGNESS TO MODIFY THEIR PLANNED REPROCESSING PLANT, WHETHER BRAZIL HAD SHOWN ANY SIMILAR FLEXIBILITY. HE SUGGESTED THAT A GERMAN-BRAZILIAN PLAN WHICH WOULD FOLLOW THE REPORTED JAPANESE SCHEME, MIGHT MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR A FRENCH-PAKISTANI RETRECHMENT. I SAID I WAS UNINFORMED, BUT WOULD SEEK GUIDANCE.

6. COMMENT: THE SHAH OBVIOUSLY TAKES SERIOUSLY HIS EFFORT TO CONTRIBUTE TO NON-PROLIFERATION THROUGH HIS INFLUENCE ON PAKISTAN. (HE ALSO HAS HIS OWN NATIONAL REASONS TO STEER HIS NEIGHBOR AWAY FROM ACQUISITION OF WEAPONS PRODUCTION CAPABILITY.) IF WE REMAIN RESPONSIVE TO HIM IN THIS TRIOLOGUE, HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO WORK ON BHUTTO. THEREFORE, ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING JAPANESE AND BRAZILIAN PLANS, OR GERMAN AND FRENCH INTENTIONS, COULD BE USED CONSTRUCTIVELY. PLEASE PROVIDE GUIDANCE.

SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decapton Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decapton Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, TECH, IR, US, PK, FR, BR, JA, (PAHLAVI, MOHAMMAD REZA), (BHUTTO, ALI)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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